

## **Postponement of Inpatient and Outpatient Elective and Non-Urgent Surgeries**

Due to continued growth in the volume of patients hospitalized with COVID-19 across the Dallas-Fort Worth region, Texas Health Resources has postponed inpatient and outpatient elective and non-urgent surgeries and procedures until further notice. This applies to all wholly owned hospitals.

The prevalence of COVID-19 positive patients has caused severe stress on inpatient and emergency department bed capacity and staffing resources. This, along with record numbers of COVID-19 positive cases in our communities, demands that our hospitals initiate surge plans to accommodate the increased volume.

Urgent surgeries – those that need to be performed to prevent significantly worse outcomes and increased morbidity for patients in the near future – will continue at all entities. These procedures include trauma surgery, acute infection treatments, biopsy of potentially malignant masses, treatments for malignancies, and treatments to address uncontrollable pain. Final determination on the timing of a surgery or procedure deemed essential remains at the discretion of physicians and shared decision-making with their patients.

Please contact your entity leadership with any questions. Resources are also available at your entity to help with patient notification.